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BRIEF 16 ████ DIRECTOR
TO: LATIN AMERICA BRIEF.

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1. CHILE: PROSPECTS FOR A DIALOGUE

    THE THIRD NATIONAL PROTEST ON TUESDAY REESTABLISHED THE MOMENTUM OF THE OPPOSITION AND IMPROVED THE CLIMATE FOR A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION, BUT IT PROBABLY WILL NOT PERSUADE PRESIDENT PINOCHET TO MAKE MAJOR CONCESSIONS. ████

    //THE GOVERNMENT'S CURFEW HELD DOWN STREET DEMONSTRATIONS, BUT MODERATE POLITICAL LEADERS WERE PLEASED WITH THE OTHER MANIFESTATIONS OF OPPOSITION. THEY ALSO ARE ENCOURAGED BY THEIR ABILITY TO DISSUADE LEFTISTS FROM CARRYING OUT EXTENSIVE ACTS OF VIOLENCE.// ████

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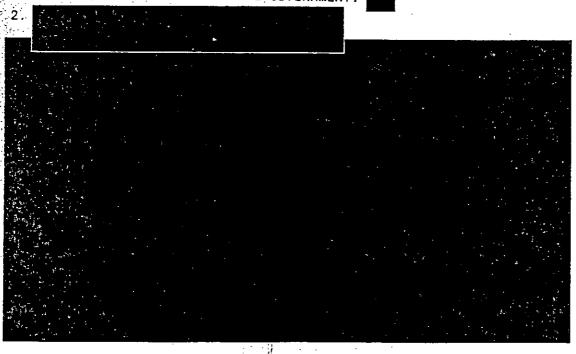~~SECRET~~

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COMMENT: PINOCHET HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT HE IS STILL IN COMMAND. NONETHELESS, HIS INCREASING RELIANCE ON ARRESTS OF PROMINENT POLITICAL FIGURES, CURFEWS, ARMY PATROLLING, AND OTHER UNPOPULAR MEASURES IS A TACIT ADMISSION THAT ROUTINE CONTROLS ARE INADEQUATE. ██

THE LOWER LEVEL OF VIOLENCE AND ENTREATIES FROM THE POPE AND SEVERAL WEST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS PROBABLY WILL IMPROVE THE CLIMATE FOR DIALOGUE ON THE OPPOSITION'S PROPOSALS AND TIMETABLES FOR TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN RULE. ALTHOUGH A REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE WOULD INCREASE POLARIZATION, PINOCHET MAY JUDGE THAT HE CAN WEATHER THE CURRENT LEVEL OF PROTESTS. HE MAY DECIDE TO CONCENTRATE ON THWARTING EFFORTS OF OPPOSITION GROUPS TO UNITE AND STAGE MORE WIDESPREAD PROTESTS. ██

OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS LEADERS OF THE ANTIGOVERNMENT LABOR AND POLITICAL COALITIONS PROBABLY WILL CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE CLOSE COOPERATION, TO TRY TO ENLIST CONSERVATIVE SUPPORT, AND TO PREPARE FOR MORE MASSIVE NATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS. THE LARGEST PROTEST IS LIKELY TO OCCUR AROUND 11 SEPTEMBER, THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OVERTHROW OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT. ██

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